



By-law 2015-164

A by-law to designate a property as being of
Cultural Heritage Value or Interest
John Eby Reesor House

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the Council of a Municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Ontario as
Represented by the Minister of Infrastructure
c/o Premier Environmental Services Inc.
244 Montrose Street North, Unit 1, Upper
Cambridge ON N3H 2H7

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the John Eby Reesor House, 8402 Steeles Avenue, and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF
MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

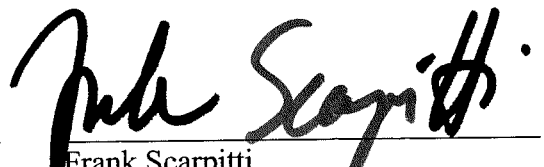
1. THAT the following real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest:

John Eby Reesor House
8402 Steeles Avenue
City of Markham
The Regional Municipality of York

2. THAT the City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

Read a first, second, and third time and passed on December 15, 2015.


Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk


Frank Scarpitti
Mayor

SCHEDULE ‘A’ TO BY-LAW 2015-164

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, property descriptions as follows:

LT 1 CON 11 MARKHAM EXCEPT PTS 1 & 2 64R2285, PT 1 65R17701 & PT 1 65R17699, LTS 2, 3, 4 & 5 CON 11 MARKHAM EXCEPT PT 1 65R31973 & PTS 1 & 2 65R31835; SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT IN GROSS OVER PT LT 5, CON 11 (MKM), PT 1, 65R31497 AND PT 3, 65R31835 AS IN YR1600957;
TOWN OF MARKHAM

CITY OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B TO BY-LAW 2015-164

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Eby Reesor House 8402 Steeles Avenue 1853

The John Eby Reesor House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

Description of Property

The John Eby Reesor House is a two storey brick building located on the north side of Steeles Avenue, west of the York-Durham Town Line. The house is set far back from the road within a clump of mature trees and shrubs, in a rural area that is part of the Rouge National Urban Park.

Historical or Associative Value

The John Eby Reesor House is of historical or associative value as the 1853 home of John Eby Reesor (1806-1864), one of the sons of Reesor family patriarch, Peter Reesor, who came to Markham Township from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1804. The Reesors are historically important as the founding family of the community of Cedar Grove, a significant settlement of Pennsylvania German Mennonites in both Markham Township and Ontario. John Eby Reesor was a successful farmer, and contributed to his community by providing land on his farm for an early school and the Old Order Risser/Reesor Mennonite Church and cemetery. He was ordained as a minister in the Mennonite Church in 1836. His descendents owned and farmed this property well into the twentieth century.

Design or Physical Value

The John Eby Reesor House is an excellent representative example of a traditional Pennsylvania German Mennonite farmhouse, complete with a “doddy house” for the older generation of the family, a summer kitchen and a woodshed wing. The overall character of this Old Order Mennonite dwelling is one of simplicity. The four-bay arrangement of door and window openings on the front wall of the main block is a typical, early Pennsylvania German detail. The small, square attic windows of the main block are another typical Pennsylvania German Mennonite element, as is the extension of the roof slope of the kitchen wing to form the veranda roof. The design or physical value of the building is enhanced by its superior degree of architectural integrity.

Contextual Value

The John Eby Reesor House is a significant element in defining the agricultural character of the Cedar Grove community of east Markham. Its traditional Pennsylvania German Mennonite form, in combination with the nearby Reesor Mennonite Church, driveshed and cemetery at 7070 York-Durham Line, clearly illustrates the influence of the Pennsylvania German Mennonite culture and heritage in this part of the Rouge River watershed. As one of the oldest structures in the community, the John Eby Reesor House has been a fixture on this land for over one and a half centuries.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes than embody the cultural heritage value of the John Eby Reesor House include:

- Overall form of the building, including the main two storey rectangular block, one and a half storey brick “doddy house”, one storey brick kitchen wing, one storey frame summer kitchen and woodshed;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Brick walls of the main building , kitchen wing and “doddy house,” and vertical tongue and groove siding of the frame wings;
- Gable roof with projecting eaves, with eave returns on the main block;
- Hip-roofed front porch, a remnant of a former full-width veranda;
- Verandas formed by the extension of the roof of the kitchen wing and summer kitchen;
- Belfry on the roof peak of the summer kitchen;
- Four panelled wood front door with multi-paned transom light above;
- 6 over 6 wood windows.